

Student Activity

Communication and Sea Travel Greatest Human Achievements

Vocabulary:

Johannes Gutenberg, Yap, Phoenicians, Henricus Martellus, Christopher Columbus, Atlantic Triangle, Ferdinand De Lesseps, Suez Canal, William Gorgas

Pre-Viewing Discussion:

If you lived in the 15th or 16th century, how would you communicate with people who were not geographically close to you?

What did Johannes Gutenberg contribute to society? How did that impact the world?

Post-Viewing Discussion:

Why is Gutenberg important?

How have civilizations of the past helped shape sea navigation?

What was wrong with Henricus Martellus' map? How did this impact Christopher Columbus?

How did the Panama Canal come to be? Why was the project so difficult and expensive?

Further Activities:

Find a memoir or biography of an individual who worked on the Panama Canal. Consider how his telling of the creation of the canal differs from this program.

Research the navigational strategies of the Phoenicians.